

Message Text

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ACTION FSI-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 A-01 /010 W

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R 200325Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1408

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR AFSP OGEN AFSI JA

SUBJ: FOREIGN OFFICE RECOGNITION, YOKOHAMA FSI LANGUAGE STUDENTS

1. ON FEB 14, 1974 EMBASSY SENT ROUTINE NOTE TO FONOFF REQUESTING IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR FSI LANGUAGE STUDENT NEIL SILVER AND HIS WIFE. ON FEB 22, FONOFF DECLINED ISSUE THESE CARDS ON BASIS "MR. SILVER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED AS A LANGUAGE STUDENT." FURTHER INDICATED NIAJH CARDS WILL BE ISSUED WHEN SILVER IS REASSIGNED TO AN EMBASSY FUNCTION. WE HAVE SAME PROBLEM WITH RICHARD OVERTURF, USIS LANGUAGE STUDENT.

2. EMBOFF SUBSEQUENTLY VISITED PROTOCOL OFFICE EARLY MARCH TO MAKE PLEA FOR ISSUANCE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION FOR SILVER AND OVERTURF, SINCE WE HAD NOT BEEN FOREWARNED OF POSSIBLE CHANGE IN FONOFF POLICY, AND OFFICERS CONCERNED WERE THUS BEING PENALIZED BY CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL. EMBOFF WAS REQUESTED WAIT FOR A FEW DAYS FOR A DECISION. SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW-UP ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS HAS RESULTED IN FURTHER REQUESTS TO "WAIT FOR A LITTLE WHILE."

3. ON APR 18 EMBOFF WAS INFORMED THAT FONOFF IS STUDY-ING WHOLE PROBLEM AND HAS REQUESTED JAPANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO INDICATE WHAT TREATMENT IS GIVEN BY DEPARTMENT TO JAPANESE "STUDENTS" WHO GO TO U.S. UNDER AUSPICES OF GOJ. IN NOTING THIS BIT OF INFORMATION, EMBOFF AGAIN MADE REQUEST FOR RELIEF FOR TWO LANGUAGE STUDENTS

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ON BASIS OF PAST PRACTICE. QUESTION OF HANDLING THIS

CATEGORY OF PERSONNEL IN FUTURE CAN THEN BE DETERMINED,
DEPENDING ON THE WASY THINGS DEVELOP. FONOFF OFFICIAL
WANTS MORE TIME TO STUDY THIS AND PROMISED ANSWER
EARLY IN WEEK OF APRIL 20.

4. WE NOT SURE WHAT FINAL POSITION GOJ WILL TAKE N
LANGUAGE SCHOOL IF PRESENT TREND BECOMES POLICY.

5. WOULD APPEAR THAT WE HAVE NO REAL PROBLEM WHERE
OFFICER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO POSITION IN EMBASSY,
USIS, OR CONSULATE INITIALLY AND SUBSEQUENTLY ENTERS
LANGUAGE SCHOOL. IN SUCH CASES, OFFICER CONCERNED
HAS ALREADY BEEN REPORTED AS EMBASSY STAFF MEMBER, AND
WE DO NOT REPORT ANY CHANGE IN STATUS.

6. PLEASE PROVIDE SOONEST AS COMPLETE INFORMATION AS
POSSIBLE ON KIND OF TREATMENT DEPARTMENT GIVES JAPANESE
"STUDENTS" WHO HOLD DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE
ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MAY BE ABLE
OFFER. FYI, AS PART OF ARGUMENT WITH FONOFF, EMBASSY PLANS TAKE
POSITION YOKOHAMA LANGUAGE SCHOOL IS INTEGRAL PART OF EMBASSY
ALTHOUGH ARGUMENT IS SOMEWHAT FLAWED BY ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL
OF STUDENTS FROM OTHER EMBASSIES.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, LANGUAGE SERVICES, STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO05229
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740092-0716
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740426/aaaaaxel.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION FSI
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <07-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <15 JUN 2005 by powellba2>; APPROVED <17 JUN 2005 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN OFFICE RECOGNITION, YOKOHAMA FSI LANGUAGE STUDENTS
TAGS: PFOR, AFSP, OGEN, AFSI, JA, US, (SILVER, NEIL E), (OVERTURF, J RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005